THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) Government does not regulate the air freight charges. According to the 'Open Sky Policy', Air Operators are free to charge rates in their commercial judgement.

New projects in Haryana

†4283. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new airports proposed to be set up by Government in the country during the next one year;

(b) whether any project for setting up a new airport or cargo airport in Haryana is under consideration;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Two new Greenfield airports are being developed with Public Private Partnership (PPP) as a Joint Venture Project at Bangalore and Hyderabad. They would be operationalized next year.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) As the expansion/modernization of Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi, is underway, no need is felt for having a new airport in Haryana at present.

Encroachment in airports

4284. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether land belonging to airports at different places in the country are under encroachment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these encroachments in the vicinity of airports are posing a danger to aircrafts while landing or taking-off; and

(d) if so, the action being taken for evacuation of the encroachers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details in respect of Airports Authority of India (AAI) airports and restructured airports are as under:

Land encroached (in acres) Mumbai-247, Juhu-29 and Nagpur-13 in Maharashtra; Satna-150 and Bhopal-30 in Madhya Pradesh; Hyderabad-97, Rajamundhary-8, Tirupati-0.3 and Visakhapatnam-0.2 in Andhra Pradesh; Amritsar-83 in Punjab; Kolkata-75.7 in West Bengal; Ahmedabad-20 and Rajkot-1 in Gujarat; Ranchi-9 in Jharkhand; Gaya-5 in Bihar; Delhi-1 and Safdarjung-1.5 in Delhi; Lucknow-17 in Uttar Pradesh; Port Blair-1.5 in Andaman & Nicobar Islands (Union Territory) and Belgaum-1 in Karnataka.

(c) Standard operating procedures safeguard the flight path of landing and take-off of aircraft at all the airports. However, the encroachments are source of bird attraction which cause some amount of operational risk to aircraft. They also cause security concern at the airports.

(d) AAI regularly takes up issues of removal of encroachments with the concerned State Governments. Mumbai International Airport Private Limited (MIAL) has already entered into an agreement with Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) for relocation and rehabilitation of slums of CSI Airport, Mumbai. It has also floated an Expression of Interest (EOI) on 18.4.2007 to invite developers for providing land and taking up construction of tenements for rehabilitation of the slum dwellers as per a scheme of the Government of Maharashtra.